

Cyber Moon's day!

Numismagram Newsletter #32 (XII/2019)



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With the annual feasting tradition of Thanksgiving now behind us, we have along with it more ensuing traditional days, like the door-busting of “Black Friday,” the shopping local of “Small Business Saturday,” the interwebz mania of “Cyber Monday,” and the charitable offerings of “Giving Tuesday.” Since today is Cyber Monday, it’s only fitting that we have for your consideration another batch of new coins and medals mined from across the globe and said interwebz.

Speaking of mining, here’s a rather interesting restrike inspired by a 1694 silver medal from Anhalt-Harzgerode in Germany. This piece is part of a seldom seen series struck by Preussag AG, originally formed as a Prussian mining company in 1923. Issued in 1985, this particularly impressive specimen features an armored and draped bust of Wilhelm, the prince of Anhalt-Harzgerode, on its obverse, while, on its reverse, it features a highly intricate mining scene with various miners at work in the shafts and the prince himself getting a tour of the subterranean goings-on...



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Precious metals and their mines aren’t the only ones which have been celebrated numismatically, however, as other metals are important to all facets of life. Take, for example, this French silver jeton from 1820. The iron mines at Saint-Étienne are honored, with a great image of the blast furnaces on the reverse...



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Circling back to Small Business Saturday, it certainly rolls off the tongue much more easily than Small Business Saturn's Day, doesn't it? Day names in English derive from Old English, with heavy Germano-Norse influences. All, that is, except Saturday, which retains a Roman significance—Saturn being the Roman god of wealth, plenty, periodic renewal, and time. As such, I'm sure that everyone wishes that they had plenty of Saturdays. But Saturn also plays into another medal in our upload, and another from the interesting Preussag series—this time inspired by a 1686 satirical silver medal from Braunschweig-Calenberg-Hannover in Germany. Here we see Saturn, depicted as he often is as an old man, first leaving with a cornucopia full of coins and the Latin phrase SIC VENIUNT (essentially, "money out"), then returning to dump out the contents of his cornucopia into a well and the phrase SIC ABEUNT (similarly, "money in"). The stunning toning simply adds to the already awesome nature of this cool piece...



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In addition to the pieces above, we have four ancient coins (three of which are from Roman Egypt), a couple WWI-related issues, medals dealing with the topic of slavery and racism in the Rhineland, another architectural type from the Wieners' series, two French "travel" medals evoking warmer temperatures, and a few other interesting pieces covering various themes.

Lastly, stay tuned for another "mini" upload later this month offering some Christmas and religious related medals just in time for the holiday season!

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